UTMB’s Institute for Translational Sciences (ITS) is creating an environment for rapid translation of discoveries in basic research into diagnosis, treatment and prevention of common diseases. The ITS is working to facilitate T1 (bench to bedside) as well as T2-T4 research (community research, outcomes and adoption of best practices).

ITS is an integrated academic home for translational research, offering access to multidisciplinary training and development resources at all career levels, as well as innovative research tools in advanced Biostatistics and Biomedical Informatics focused on patient-oriented research.

The ITS is a member of the CTSA consortium, funded by the National Center for Research Resources, and is working to improve human health by transforming the research and training environment to enhance the efficiency and quality of clinical and translational research.

ADD VALUE TO YOUR RESEARCH

- Use the multi-site Clinical Research Center (CRC)
- Consult with experts in biostatistics, research design and research ethics
- Benefit from a shared biomedical data environment with access to basic and clinical data
- Access facilities and expertise in translational technologies and novel methodologies, including biobanking, imaging and multi-omics technologies
- Follow a clear pathway for navigating the regulatory environment
- Employ best practices in research integrity, subject safety, advocacy and public trust
- Incorporate effective community engagement strategies
- Design and implement evaluation protocols
- Secure funding for pilot projects
- Improve proposals and manuscripts
- Participate in research training and career development programs
- Build and lead multidisciplinary teams
- Recruit volunteers, work with study coordinators and communicate with other investigators
- Streamline project management

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CTSA Clinical & Translational Science Awards
Three principles guide our operations:
1. Employ proactive mechanisms in identifying new team-oriented research opportunities
2. Prioritize trainee involvement in a team-based culture
3. Integrate systems biology approaches into translational research.

Our CTSA is organized as a suite of Key Resources, integrated by a single point of contact, the Coordinating Core. Key Resources are aggregations of established university core laboratories and existing and new intellectual resources.

The Key Resources are: Coordinating Core, Novel Methodologies, Pilot & Collaborative Studies, Translational Technologies & Resources, Biomedical Informatics, Biostatistics & Research Design, Regulatory Knowledge & Support, Community Engagement & Research, Research Education Training & Career Development, Ethics Support, Tracking & Evaluation, and the Clinical Research Center (formerly GCRC)

Key Resources support multidisciplinary translational teams (MTTs) and individual researchers.

MTTs are modeled on goal-oriented teams in industry, adapted to the academic environment. Their objectives include: enhancing the scope, depth and quality of translational research; and linking activities to translational outcomes.

We have identified 11 initial MTTs for participation in the CTSA:
- Aging Muscle and Sarcopenia
- Arboviral Vaccine Development
- Burns, Injury Response
- Effect of Probiotic Lactobacilli on Vaginal Flora of Pregnant Women
- Epidemiology of Estrogens
- Hepatocellular Carcinoma Biomarker Development
- Metabolic Syndrome and Diabetes
- Novel Therapeutics for Clostridial Difficile Infection
- Pediatric Respiratory Infections
- Phenotypes of Severe Asthma
- Reproductive Women’s Health

As capacity increases, the Coordinating Core will work with our NIH council-style Executive Committee to proactively develop new MTTs.